



MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS



PRESS RELEASE

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MDOC OPENS YOUTHFUL OFFENDER UNIT

Jackson – The Mississippi Department of Corrections has opened a unit for youthful offenders at Central Mississippi Correctional Facility in Rankin County.

The Youthful Offender Unit (YOU), which began operating Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2012, is separate from the other inmates at CMCF and has its own staff. The facility's capacity is 42.

The unit contains all males 17 and under and 18- and 19-year-old males determined vulnerable and appropriate for the facility. The youth had been housed at Walnut Grove Youth Correctional Facility (WGYCF) in Leake County. Walnut Grove no longer houses youthful offenders.

The YOU will cost an estimated \$4,374,395 (\$2,537,099 in construction expense and \$1,837,296 in operating expense) this fiscal year.

Funding for the new unit is included in the department's deficit request for \$29,592,762 for fiscal 2013. State lawmakers originally appropriated \$339,130,424 to corrections for the current budget year.

The MDOC established the YOU under a federal court order dated March 26, 2012.

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